AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original): A printing materials production supporting apparatus

comprising:

a definition reception section receiving a definition of a job representing one work

consisting of a series of steps for producing one printing material, a definition of a work flow

representing procedures for executing the job, and input of information on a client executing the

jobb together with a predetermined customer, from a terminal of the predetermined customer

among a plurality of terminals connected through a communication line;

a customer/client management section managing information on said customer and the

information on said client;

a progress management section managing a progress status of the job received by said

definition reception section for each job; and a file management section managing a substantial

file storing data available as the printing material or data available as a part of the printing

material relating to the job received by said definition reception section for each job.

2. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to claim 1, comprising:

an upload count section counting the number of times of upload of the substantial file by said customer and said client.

3. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to claim 1, comprising:

a preflight rule download section downloading rules necessary to execute a preflight processing for verifying whether the data stored in the substantial file is appropriate data for printing, to said customer and said client.

4. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said definition reception section receives designation of privileges of the client by said customer, and said customer/client management section manages the information on the customer and the information on the client including information on the privileges of the customer; and the printing materials production supporting apparatus approves access from the client in a range of the privileges authorized to the client.

5. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said definition reception section receives designation of an operator operating the

terminal and designation of privileges of the operator, and said customer/client management

section manages information on the operator including information on the privileges of the

operator as well as the information on the customer and the information on the client; and the

printing materials production supporting apparatus approves access from the operator in a range

of the privileges authorized to the operator.

6. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to

claim 1, comprising:

an asset management section managing the substantial file storing data available as the

printing material or data available as a part of the printing material for each customer; and a first

transfer section transferring the substantial file managed by said file management section to said

asset management section in accordance with an instruction.

7. (Original): The printing materials production supporting apparatus according to

claim 1, comprising:

an asset management section managing the substantial file storing the data available as

the printing material or data available as a part of the printing material for each customer; and

a second transfer section transferring the substantial file managed by the asset

management section to said file management section in accordance with an instruction with the

job being designated.

8. (Original): A printing materials production supporting system

comprising:

a definition reception section receiving a definition of a job representing one work

consisting of a series of steps for producing one printing material, a definition of a work flow

representing procedures for executing the job, and input of information on a client executing the

job together with a predetermined customer, from a terminal of the predetermined customer

among a plurality of terminals connected through a communication line;

a customer/client management section managing information on said customer and the

information on said client;

a progress management section managing a progress status of the job received by said

definition reception section for each job; and

a file management section managing a substantial file storing data available as the

printing material or data available as a part of the printing material relating to the job received by

said definition reception section for each job.

9. (Original): A printing materials production supporting program executed in a computer and thereby allowing the computer to operate as a printing materials production supporting apparatus for supporting production of printing materials, the program comprising:

a definition reception section receiving a definition of a job representing one work consisting of a series of steps for producing one printing material, a definition of a work flow representing procedures for executing the job, and input of information on a client executing the job together with a predetermined customer, from a terminal of the predetermined customer among a plurality of terminals connected through a communication line;

a customer/client management section managing information on said customer and the information on said client;

a progress management section managing a progress status of the job received by said definition reception section for each job; and a file management section managing a substantial file storing data available as the printing material or data available as a part of the printing material relating to the job received by said definition reception section for each job.

10. (Original): A printing materials production supporting program executed in a computer and thereby allowing the computer to operate as a printing materials production supporting system for supporting production of printing materials, the program comprising:

a definition reception section receiving a definition of a job representing one work consisting of a series of steps for producing one printing material, a definition of a work flow representing procedures for executing the job, and input of information on a client executing the job together with a predetermined customer, from a terminal of the predetermined customer among a plurality of terminals connected through a communication line;

a customer/client management section managing information on said customer and the information on said client;

a progress management section managing a progress status of the job received by said definition reception section for each job; and

a file management section managing a substantial file storing data available as the printing material or data available as a part of the printing material relating to the job received by said definition reception section for each job.

11. (New): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the client executing the job comprises the client performing operations to print the printing materials including at least one of plate making and printing.

12. (New): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the customer grants privileges to a client to access information associated with the job, wherein the customer grants access to multiple different clients for the job.

13. (New): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the apparatus is connected to at least one of the plate making system and a printer operation system remotely located from the apparatus and connected to the apparatus via a network.

14. (New): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the apparatus does not include the plate making or printer operation system as a co-located element.

15. (New): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the customer grants privileges to an operator to access information associated with the job, wherein the customer grants access to multiple different operators for the job.